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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re: US Patent Application 10/047,150
Filed January 14, 2002
Applicant Schöppach et al
Art Unit 2872
Examiner Joshua L. Pritchett
Examiner's Telephone (571) 272-2318
Attorney Docket (Z)99038 P US

Mail Stop Response-Art Unit 2872
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Va. 22313-1450

Dear Examiner Pritchett:

This responds to the Office Action mailed 05/16/2005.

Please amend the specification as follows. In the preamble to the specification, prior to the heading "Statement Regarding Federally Sponsored Research or Development" and after "Cross-References to Related Applications", delete "Not applicable." and insert the following:

This is a continuation application of PCT/EP00/06661, which claims priority of German Patent Application DE 199 33 248.7, filed on July 15, 1999.

This Amendment to the specification does not add new matter, but rather, merely states the priority originally claimed when this application was filed.

The claims are set forth on the following pages, together with status indicators:

11/22/2005 CCHAU1 00000062 10047150
01 FC:1253 1020.00 OP

11/22/2005 CCHAU1 00000062 10047150
02 FC:1201 200.00 OP
03 FC:1202 150.00 OP